In brief

Expired vehicle pass

If your base registration decal has a green expiration date of 2002, it is time to renew your base vehicle registration. Any vehicle displaying a 2002 expiration date sticker after Jan. 8 will be required to stop and obtain a vehicle pass before entering the installation.

For more information, call 283-4191.

Theater closure

Due to structural failure in the roof, the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron has advised that the base theater will be closed until repairs can be made.

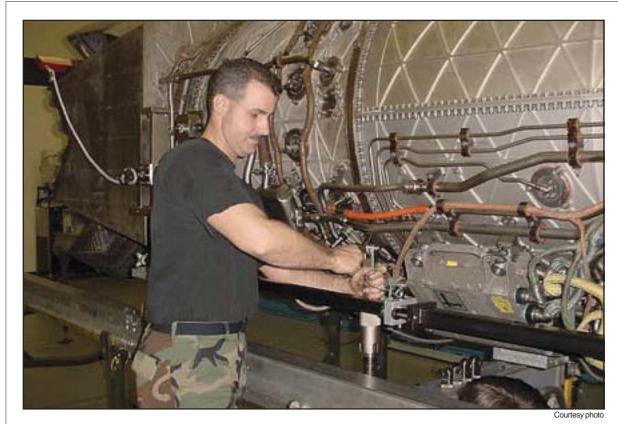
Assistant needed

An assistant NCO in charge is needed for the Tyndall Honor Guard program. Experience in the honor guard is preferred but not required. Applicants must meet the minimum requirement of senior airman 5-level with at least one-year retainability. Applications need to be turned in to the NCO in charge of the Tyndall Honor Guard, Staff Sgt. Adam Sparks, by Jan. 3. A selection board will be held after all applications are submitted.

For more information, call 774-3858 or 523-4405, or email: honorguard@tyndall. af.mil.

Inside

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Raptor power

Tech. Sgt. Norman Shaw, an engine instructor with the 372nd Training Squadron, Detachment 4, transfers a Pratt & Whitney F-119 engine from a shipping stand to an in-place maintenance stand at the unit's facility here. Sergeant Shaw and his fellow Det. 4 instructors will train Tyndall students to maintain the newly received F/A-22 Raptor engines.

Bush orders smallpox shots for military, others

KATHLEEN RHEM

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush announced Dec. 13 that he has ordered smallpox vaccinations to begin for military person-

He also recommended medical personnel and first responders receive the vaccine, but on a voluntary basis. Administration officials stopped short of recommending widespread vaccinations of the American public.

"Men and women who could be on the frontlines of a biological attack must be protected," the president said during an afternoon press briefing in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building.

The president stressed his decision was not based on a specific threat, but on the renewed focus on security brought about by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist

thrax attacks through the mail.

"To protect our citizens in the aftermath of Sept. 11, we are evaluating old threats in a new light," he said.

Smallpox is a highly contagious viral disease. It is often fatal and nearly always disfiguring. There is no cure or treatment.

The eradication of smallpox as a naturally occurring disease is one of the greatest triumphs of the World Health Organization. President Bush noted the risk of smallpox was so remote by 1972 that the United States quit routine vaccinations.

The military continued vaccinating recruits until 1990.

A Department of Defense release indicated the department will immunize personnel based on their occupational responsibilities, with emergency response teams

attacks and the subsequent an- and hospital and clinic workers thing he wasn't willing to take receiving the vaccine first. Next will be those individuals with "critical mission capabilities."

> The smallpox vaccine is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration and is from the same stocks used before routine vaccinations stopped in the 1970s. Though the vaccine is considered safe and effective, vaccination is not without risks. Medical officials warn that there is a slight possibility of severe reactions for some people.

> Public health officials warn that pregnant women, individuals with weakened immune systems and those with certain skin disorders shouldn't receive the smallpox vaccine.

> During the announcement, President Bush said he'd be vaccinated because he wouldn't order military personnel to take any

himself. However, he added, his family and staff would not be getting the vaccines because public health and national security experts are not recommending them for the general public.

"These vaccinations are a precaution only and not a response to any information concerning imminent danger," President Bush said. "Given the current level of the threat, and the inherent health risks of the vaccine, we have decided not to initiate a broader vaccination program for all Americans at this time."

The president noted that the cautionary vaccinations are a necessary step to guard against possible threats to the nation. "It is prudent to prepare for the possibility that terrorists who kill indiscriminately would use disease as a weapon," he said.

Outstanding people make 2002 highly successful

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW 325th Fighter Wing commander



With the holidays upon us, and with 2002 now drawing to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the men and

women of Team Tyndall for making this year so successful. Among the many successes, your collective efforts ensured we provided world-class air superiority support and training and made sure our personnel, organization and infrastructure systems are primed for the arrival of our first F/A-22 Raptor in the summer of 2003.

Whether you're on the operations or support side of the house, whether you are a family member or retiree, you have performed a uniquely vital role in ensuring the achievement of our F-15 pilot, air battle manager, maintenance crew chief, air traffic control and intelligence officer training missions. I'm proud to say you've pulled it off in the safest, most professional manner. However, the hard work hasn't been limited to the perimeter of Tyndall Air Force Base.

You've gone outside our gates to perform many thousands of hours of volunteer support for our community neighbors throughout Bay County and beyond.

With the season of giving in full swing, I was happy to hear about the great community support offered over the last few weeks by more than 30 1st, 2nd and 95th Fighter Squadron pilots and maintainers and their respective aircraft maintenance units. They helped close out 2002 by volunteering to help build a Bay County Habitat for Humanity house. In doing so, these folks not only reaffirmed the bond between their reorganized units, they also showed the positive impact they can make by reaching out to those in need within the local community. I've heard from organizers that volunteers from across Team Tyndall helped construct several differ-



To: Team Tyndall

From: Brig. Gen. Larry and
Diane New, daughter Cara, and son
Ryan (not shown)

Happy Holidays

ent houses in three different counties, amassing literally thousands of hours. Special thanks to all of you who participated in these and similar community service programs. Absolutely every time I meet with our local civic leaders, they are quick to tell me how much they appreciate what you do for them and the folks in our respective communities.

I have some more good news to share related to the spirit of giving. Team Tyndall recently presented a check in the amount of \$184,325 to the regional director of the Combined Federal Campaign program. While we met this year's primary goal of 100 percent meaningful contact, each unit established their own mon-

etary goals. I'm pleased to report, overall, that goal was exceeded — attaining 115 percent of goal. Many thanks to Team Tyndall for your generosity and to all our CFC keyworkers for their diligent work.

As busy as this year has been, we're looking at an action-packed new year. We will open our gates March 22-23 for the Gulf Coast Salute 2003 open house and air show. We will be heavily tasked to support the Air Expeditionary Force. This summer the Checkertail Clan's readiness will be put to the test during our Operational Readiness Inspection in June. Soon after, we will see our first F/A-22 land here. But, despite the obviously hectic pace of these events, if we remain properly prepared,

stay focused on our objectives and practice operational and personal risk management while taking care of our people, we will come through with flying colors.

Before I close, I want to urge everyone to focus on making this holiday season a perfectly safe one. This time of year presents a wide range of hazards, from out on the roadways to inside our own homes (see the article on Page 5 for more about the household hazards). Unfortunately, you don't have to look very hard to find examples of careless motorists darting in and out of traffic in a mad rush to get the holiday shopping done. Making things worse, a few are under the influence of alcohol. Irresponsible drivers are out there, so let's all be alert to the dangers they present.

Most importantly, with all the seasonal celebrations, never drink and drive. Not only does your family need you around, so does the 325th Fighter Wing and our Air Force. If you're planning to consume alcoholic beverages, do the smart thing and plan to have a designated driver. If you're in a bind, you can contact the Tyndall Active Airmen's "Airmen Against Drunk Driving" hotline at 867-2233.

The AADD program is designed to provide military members with a free, safe ride home within the local area. Volunteer airmen in grades E-1 through E-4 staff this hotline. It's available to members of all ranks who have a valid military ID. AADD stresses complete anonymity and it is a safe and effective option if needed.

Whatever your holiday plans include, I urge you to apply the tenets of risk management and common sense to ensure you'll return safe and sound when we all get back to work in 2003. Each of you is critical to our mission, so we need you back after the holidays.

To everyone at Team Tyndall, Diane and I wish you the safest and happiest of holidays. May your season be filled with joy, happiness and many blessings.

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. Larry New	325th FW commander
Capt. Chris Karns	chief, 325th FW public affairs
Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely	chief, internal information
2nd Lt. Albert Bosco	public affairs action officer
Staff Sgt. Roel Utley	editor
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The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

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New 911 system ready for calls

SENIOR MASTER SGT. MARK SANDERS 325th Communications Squadron

Recently, Nine One One, Inc. and the 325th Communications Squadron installed an Enhanced 911 system.

While the base has always had a 911 emergency phone number, its capabilities were very limited. The new system, with its many new features, will greatly enhance the handling of emergency calls originating on Tyndall and from the family housing areas.

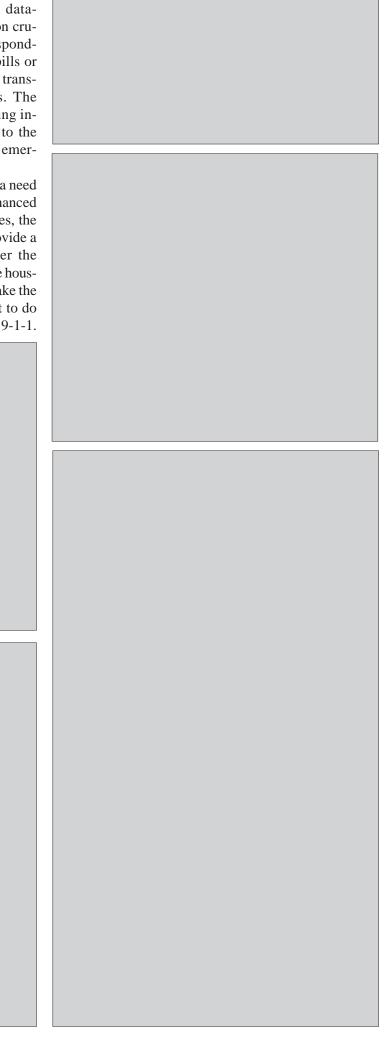
Features such as Call Trap & Trace will allow security forces personnel to quickly determine who originated a call. This is important if the caller hangs up prematurely or is forcibly disconnected.

cation database and mapping feature will automatically provide dispatchers with the exact location of the caller, while significantly reducing the time required to find and reach the location of the emergency. This feature is especially important if the caller is a child or an adult who has become incapacitated and cannot provide their location. A Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) is also provided to support those who are hearing impaired.

All emergency calls are digitally recorded and can be instantly replayed for clarification if needed. Other features include the Hazardous Material database and Emergency Medical Dispatch. The

An Automatic Location Identifi- HAZMAT database is a Department of Transportation approved database that provides information crucial to emergency teams responding to accidental chemical spills or accidents involving vehicles transporting hazardous materials. The EMD provides basic life-saving information that can be given to the caller to assist them before emergency medical teams arrive.

> Hopefully, there will not be a need to use the features of the Enhanced 911 system, but if a need arises, the Enhanced 911 system will provide a significant improvement over the older system. If you live in base housing and have small children, take the time to educate them on what to do in case of an emergency. Dial 9-1-1.



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Air Force leaders send holiday wishes to AF family

Dr. James Roche

Secretary of the Air Force GEN. JOHN JUMPER

Air Force Chief of Staff

In this season of thanksgiving and reverent celebration, we send our warmest wishes to our entire Air Force team of active, Guard, Reserve, civilian and retired airmen and to your loved ones and families.

As defenders of America, we salute you for your honor, courage and commitment—values worthy of our nation's deepest gratitude and profound respect. For each of you who voluntarily wear the uniform of our nation, this holiday season offers General (John) Jumper and I an opportunity to simply say — thank you.

To those separated from loved ones during this special time of year — whether a result of a deployment or mobilization — we send our heartfelt appreciation for your sacrifice and willingness to bear the burdens of freedom. Your devoted service underscores all that is great about America. And in an era of grave new chal-

●SEE ROCHE PAGE 7

Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — With the holiday season upon us, I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you in the "First Command" for all the hard work, effort and commitment you put into making this past year such a success for Air Education and Training Com-

I am very proud of you all, and you should be proud of each other for your achievements in accomplishing AETC's very critical mission to recruit, train and educate our Air Force's future professional airmen. The AETC Team truly had an awesome year.

Our basic military training throughput has increased to 43,000 airmen a year, the technical training seats are filled, and we are targeting critically manned AFSCs to focus our training efforts to solve the demands on our stressed career fields. Additionally, we graduated nearly 1,100 active-duty pilots and 360 navigators.

●SEE COOK PAGE 15

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom

19th Air Force commander

With another year coming to an end and the holiday season in full force, it is with my deepest gratitude that I extend my appreciation to the men and women of the 19th Air Force. Your dedication and "can do" attitude have once again carried the 19th Air Force through another successful and prosperous year.

This season, we have much to reflect on. Now, more than ever, is the time to encourage and strengthen our young airmen as they deploy from their homes and families to continue the fight on terrorism.

As a new year nears, America finds assurance in the competence and diligence of its military force and the 19th Air Force family – active duty, Reserve, civilian and contractor play a great role in assuring our nation's freedoms.

More than 18,000 students have been trained by the 19th Air Force this year. These young airmen are our future assurance for a strong military force. It is with

●SEE SANDSTROM PAGE 15

Protect your home from fire during holidays

325th Civil Engineer Squadron fire prevention asst. chief

The Christmas holiday is often filled with fond memories of colorful lights, Christmas decorations and presents under the

There is a magic in the air that makes people become a little more kind and a time when family and friends come together for the occasion. However, as most of us enjoy the Christmas holiday, there will be families across the country that will be less fortunate. Families will be homeless because of an accidental fire. The media will report how the tragic fire could have been prevented. We will sigh a breath of relief that our family was spared. But often, we don't take the time to assess our fire-safety practices to guarantee that a fire does not touch us.

To make this Christmas a safe and joyous event for everyone, take some time to learn how to remove the threat of fire by using the following checklists:

Households with live Christmas trees should take the following measures to help keep trees from drying out:

- ☐ To allow trees to have maximum moisture intake, make a long diagonal cut across the tree base and place it into a stable tree stand.
- ☐ Always keep the water level above the diagonal cut and check daily.
- ☐ Place trees in the coolest part of a room and never place trees close to space heaters or in front of heating ducts.

- out, so take them down immediately after the holidays.
- ☐ Use only UL approved Christmas lights. If lights are hung outside, check the labels on each set of lights to ensure they are approved for outdoor use. Check each string of lights for damage prior to hanging lights.
- ☐ Never use nails or staples to hang electrical wiring because it may cause a short and possible fire.
- ☐ Be cautious not to overload electrical circuits. If a circuit breaker keeps tripping, there may be too many appliances on that
- ☐ Only use fire retardant material for decoration and discard all package wrapping immediately to reduce the spread of

To further protect your family and guests, set some ground rules for them to follow. If making a few rules means protecting the safety of your home and loved ones, do it! Here is some guidance along with some other safety tips to help you:

☐ Declare the kitchen off limits to anyone who is not actively participating in the preparation of food, especially children. Fewer people in the kitchen reduces the possibility of someone getting burned.

☐ Never leave cooking unattended, even for a few minutes. It is easy to get preoccupied while tending to other family ac-

☐ Turn pot handles inward so they are

☐ Christmas trees will eventually dry out of small children's reach. Children move fast, so use additional precautions in case they invade the "No Children Zone."

- ☐ Wear close-fitting clothing to avoid contact with stove burners, hot pots and pans. If necessary, roll up your sleeves and wear an apron while you're cooking for added safety.
- ☐ Keep the area around the kitchen stove clear of clutter that could contribute to the spread of fire.
- ☐ Always have potholders and oven mitts handy to move or carry hot pans or dishes.

Practicing fire safety will help prevent fires, but you also should know what to do if fire occurs. Here are some additional guidelines to follow:

- ☐ Always have a pot lid close by while cooking. If a fire flares up, put the lid on the pot, turn off the heat and leave it covered. Do not try to move the pan because it may get dropped causing the fire to spread or someone to get severely burned. It takes a few minutes for the pan to cool down.
- ☐ Never use water or flour on cooking oil or grease fires. Water has a violent reaction with hot oil or grease and particles of flour dust can explode.
- ☐ Mount a fire extinguisher in an accessible location away from the kitchen
- ☐ Post the fire department's emergency number "911" by every phone in the

house. Always report fires in a safe location away from the fire even if you must call from a neighbor's house. Remain calm and do not hang up until the dispatcher tells you to. The dispatcher will need the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number from where you are calling
 - Location of fire
 - Any other pertinent information
- ☐ Check your smoke detector along with the detector's battery backup for proper operation. Smoke detectors should be tested at least once a month.
- ☐ Lastly, practice "E.D.I.T.H." (exit drills in the home) with your family members before the holidays. Assign a place in front of a neighbor's yard for everyone to meet. This will allow the fire department to account for everyone upon arrival. Never return inside the house to obtain items such coats, handbags, pets,

These safety guidelines will do little to protect your family and home unless they are reviewed and practiced by everyone. Remember, practicing fire safety is the first line of defense to prevent fires. There can be no greater gift than protecting your family members against the threat of fire. For more information, call the fire prevention office at 283-2909. Your Tyndall AFB Fire Department wishes you and yours a happy and safe Christmas.

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Checkertail Salute



Courtesy pho

Sergeant Jackson is awarded the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Jackson who produced outstanding results on a short notice tasking from higher headquarters. She created a product in one day showing 92 aircrew members with combat experience in 26 different aircraft. The information was provided to the secretary of the Air Force level for use in ongoing combat decisions.

Staff Sgt. Kathy Jackson

Duty title: Noncommissioned officer in charge of aviation resource management

Unit: Det. 1, 325th Fighter Wing, Corry Station, Pensacola

Time on station: 1 year Time in service: 14 years Hometown: Ocala, Fla. Hobbies: Bowling, reading and

traveling

Goals: Finish my bachelor's degree and enjoy my military

career to the fullest.

Favorite thing about Pensacola: Being able to practically fish in my backyard and being close to home. Personal motto: Seek out the positive in every situation.

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

In brief

'Operation Dear Abby' canceled

On Oct. 30, the acting assistant deputy undersecretary of defense for transportation policy suspended the "Operation Dear Abby" and "Any Service Member" mail programs due to force protection concerns. Both programs created an avenue to introduce biological, chemical or explosive materials into the mail system from unknown sources.

In order to provide deployed personnel a secure mail system, the Air Force cannot support creative, albeit good intentioned, efforts that defeat force protection measures.

While the Air Force applauds the kindness and generosity of the American people, we cannot afford the force protection risks associated with the "Any Service Member" programs.

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Caption contest



Submit an entry for this month's Safety Caption Contest and win a free lunch from the 325th Services Squadron! Send your caption to 2nd Lt. Brian Smart at 283-4231 or e-mail the safety office.

Last month's winner

"Son — if I told you once, I told you a thousand times — cut the firewood up **FIRST** before loading it into the darn truck!"

Bob Shinholt King Aerospace



●From ROCHE Page 5

lenges to the values of liberty and equality, you represent the strength of this diverse land, and symbolize all that is good about your generation. Wherever you are stationed or deployed, we urge you to reflect on the abundant blessings and privileges we enjoy as Americans. Indeed, we are richly blessed. But with such riches come responsibility; the responsibility to preserve and defend freedom-loving people, and to ready ourselves for the future battles we must fight for our nation.

In this season of giving and thanks, take a few moments to reflect on the value your gift of service brings to every man, woman and child in America and around the globe. Your gift is freedom, and all who live under its protective wings benefit from this great offering of peace and hope. Whether you live here in the United States, or are stationed in a foreign land, the shelter and security of the Stars and Stripes goes with you.

To all members of the world's greatest Air Force, we offer our most sincere thanks for all that you do for America. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season, and hope for peace in the New Year.

Happy holidays!

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Meet 325th Fighter Wing's new command chief

(Editor's note: The 325th Fighter Wing recently welcomed Chief Master Sgt. Richard Cargill as the Checkertail Clan's new command chief master sergeant. This week, the Gulf Defender interviewed the chief concerning his thoughts about the new job ahead of him as well as some insights into his personality. The following is a transcript of that interview.)

Q: How does it feel to be the 325th Fighter Wing's command chief, and what do you see as your most important roles?

A: I've been here for a short time, but what can I say? I love it here! I grew up in Maine, and I just moved here from Colorado Springs, so being

that it is December, I admit, being in Florida isn't the worst place I could be.

Seriously, it is great to be here, it's great to be part of Team Tyndall and I'm excited to have the opportunity to work with General New and all base leadership. It's a unique opportunity to be part of a new weapon system, and I think all of us at Tyndall can be proud of the part we'll play in providing the United States air dominance with the F/A-22 Raptor.

No matter what our job is on Tyndall, each of us makes a major contribution to this new era. A wing command chief master sergeant needs to be an adviser, a leader and an example to all — wing and associate members, enlisted, officer, civilians and families alike.

Q: What were some of your first impressions about the Team Tyndall folks you've met so far?

A: They are great! I've met so many talented people in the last few weeks and seen so many places. There



Favorite sports teams: Denver Broncos, New England Patriots, Florida Gators, in NASCAR, Jeff Gordon.

Favorite book: Series by W.E.B.Griffin, *The Brotherhood of War.*

Book I'm currently reading: *Centennial*, by James Michener.

Top pet peeves: Little violations of AFI 36-2903; people who "play games"

Favorite foods: Junk food ... all junk food! **Favorite quote or personal saying:** Quote: "The Irish Blessing;" personal saying: "Just shoot 'om."

My personality summed up in a single word: Hopefully, "professional."

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Cargill
325th Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant

is one obvious thing that hits you immediately — energy! Maybe it's Florida, maybe it's being in (Air Eduction and Training Command), maybe it's just the holiday feeling, I don't know, but unlike some other places I've been, the folks at Tyndall seem to have a special energy about them.

I know every time I move, I try to re-energize myself ... re-blue, if you will. But, from the moment I drove onto Tyndall, I haven't had to do that. The energy of the folks here has done that for me. In fact, I'm finding it difficult to keep up with them!

The airman at the front gate, Focus 56, the shirts, chiefs and group commanders, the members of associate units and our Bay County partners ... all have welcomed me with open arms and made me want to be as energized as they all are.

Q: What is your top goal for the wing?

A: As the wing command chief, my top goal is to help General New make Tyndall better than it was when we got here. I know that's kind of simply stated, but it is all encompassing.

It includes the people under his command, the base infrastructure, the ties to the local community and of course the training we provide. My part will be advising the commander and assisting him in improving our overall quality of life in that pursuit.

Q: What are some of your favorite hobbies/off-duty interests, and why do you enjoy them?

A: Involvement in the base and local community and being a dad have been my hobbies for the last 30-something years. Throughout my life, I have always believed it's important to give something back to those who have given to you. My parents instilled that in me, so even before I came in the

Air Force, I was a volunteer in the community. I enjoy helping those in need and encouraging young people to use their potential to reach their goals.

My family, especially my children, have always been my number one hobby. As they were growing up, I was involved in every aspect of their lives — school, sports, etc. Their lives were my life.

Aside from those "hobbies," I've recently picked up the game of golf. I'm not really any good at it yet, but if I have one good drive and one good putt in one game, I'm happy and I'll be back to play again. As long as I'm having fun playing, I'll continue, no matter how bad I am.

Q: How do you feel some of your previous assignments/duty positions (especially with your wealth of experience as a first shirt) have prepared you for this assignment?

A: Every place I've been, every person I've worked with and every job I've had has contributed to who I

SEE CHIEF ON PAGE 9

Team Tyndall announces field grade promotions



325th Fighter Wing lieutenant colonel selects:

Phillip Parker, 325th Aeromedical Dental Squadron David Rosso, 325th Medical Operations Squadron

325th FW major selects:

Harlie Bodine, 95th Fighter Squadron Kenneth Chaloux, 325th Air Control Squadron

Erika Geitner, 325th MOS Tamara Hall, 325th MOS Matthew Mireles, 325th Operations Support Squadron Karen Neil, 325th MOS James Nevius, 325th ACS Orlando Sanchez Jr., 2nd FS

Lawrence Spinetta, 1st FS

James Suhr, (inbound from Kadena AB)

Tenant unit major selects

Michael Calidonna, Air Force Research Laboratory Adrian Clarke, Pensacola Robert Cottrell Jr., Air Force Legal Services Agency Erika Furlong, 67th Information Operations Group Jesse Hamel, Pensacola Kelly Harshbarger, Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency Sean Judge, Pensacola Randal Koenig, Pensacola
Kyle Koncak, Pensacola
Erik Lagerquist, AFCESA
Michael Meyer Jr., Pensacola
Timothy Moser, Pensacola
Edward Schneider, Air Force
Institute of Technology
Gaetano Selvaggio, 83rd Fighter
Weapons Squadron
Sujay Setlur, 83rd FWS
Andrew Travnicek, Pensacola
Timothy Vituszynski, Pensacola
Timothy Welde (inbound from RAF
Lakenheath)

Tyndall partners with RAMS, supports local high school

SENIOR MASTER SGT. ROB FULLER

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

igh school students normally have two choices when faced with making up courses in order to graduate — summer school, or earn credit at a local learning center. Fortunately, a unique option exists on Tyndall Air Force Base. It's called RAMSAT.

The program is the product of a partnership that has developed between Rutherford High School, in Springfield, and Tyndall. The 'RAM' represents the school's mascot and 'SAT' reflects that fact that the program is a satellite of the high school curriculum.

"It gives the students an opportunity to take academic classes and gain first-hand experience in a chosen career field," said Richard Lydick, assistant RAMSAT coordinator. "That way, if they want to work at a hospital, childcare facility or fire department, for instance, it gives them a taste before they head out to the real world while earning required credits."

Usually, during a student's junior year, counselors identify those who might need an opportunity to "retrieve" credit for courses required for graduation. That's where Mr. Lydick and RAMSAT come in.

"Before students get into RAMSAT they are scrutinized closely," said Mr. Lydick. "They just don't come out here. We have to make sure we identify and match needed courses to our program, and we have to make sure potential RAMSAT students don't have attendance problems." Students and parents sign an agreement that identifies course requirements, and spells out attendance, behavior and general standards of conduct. The system of checks and balances must be working. Mr. Lydick has been involved with this program since 1996. He has seen 156 students experience RAMSAT, while only one student didn't graduate.

"We hold the students to a high standard," said Mr. Lydick. The RAMSAT standards start with students' appearance. "Some people don't agree with the way students dress these days, so we hold a high standard," said Mr. Lydick. "They're on a military installation, working with military members and the public, so they will dress accordingly."

Base agencies even help in this capacity. The Airman Leadership School provides monthly classes on such subjects as dress and appearance, effective writing, time and stress management, financial management, discrimination and sexual harassment, as well as anger management.

RAMSAT operates in two parts. Students work at job

sites around Tyndall from 7:30-11 a.m. on even calendar school days. In the afternoon, they use a computer program called PLATO to retrieve needed credits in such disciplines as science, math and history.

325th Several Fighter Wing and associate units host students at job sites. Currently students work at the 325th Security Forces, Mission Support and Civil Engineer Squadrons. The Tyndall Elementary School, Natural Resources Flight, Child Care Center, Education Center, Fire Department, Finance Office and Air

Force Research Lab also have RAMSAT students working to earn high school credit in their organizations.

"I think it's a good program," said Gina Hyde, a RAMSAT student. Ms. Hyde's job site is the 325th SFS Pass and Registration office. She hopes to enter the military after high school.

"It's giving me an idea of what to expect when I enter the military," she said.

Job site supervisors echo the program benefits as well.

"It's a good stepping stone and provides insight into what the work force is like before students leave high school," said Staff Sgt. Edward Branagan, 325th SFS Pass and Registration NCO in charge.

The partnership enjoys mutual benefits. The students gain valuable credit they may have otherwise lost, Rutherford High School enjoys program sponsorship through the base support, and Team Tyndall gains another venue to contribute to the community while introducing young people to military and civilian career programs. According to Mr. Lydick, Tyndall has seen other benefits as well. A few years back, RAMSAT students along with a summer youth program



Senior Master Sgt. Rob Fuller

Gina Hyde, a Rutherford High School RAMSAT student, operates an identification card camera in the 325th Security Forces Squadron Pass and Registration office.

and the Natural Resources Flight constructed an outdoor classroom pavilion near the Tyndall Marina.

Tyndall organizations also provide RAMSAT with the means to operate. The 325th Services Squadron provides a facility co-located with the Base Honor Guard, and the Airman Leadership School along with the NCO Academy provided furniture. The 325th Communications Squadron provided the needed computer support.

"Rutherford High School is proud of our partnership with Tyndall Air Force Base," said Joe Bullock, Rutherford High School Principal. "RAMSAT has proven to be an excellent "school-to-work" transition for our students."

RAMSAT results speak for themselves. According to Mr. Lydick, many students have gone on to college. Two students who worked with the Tyndall Fire Department went on to become firefighters, and six of this year's 18 students have already made plans to enter the military.

"If we can change people's lives, that's what we're here for," said Mr. Lydick.

CHIEF FROM PAGE 8

am and the abilities I have to be a good command chief. I believe every experience is useful. I've had great mentors and have been associated with a few "non-examples" of good leadership. I think I've learned from both.

With the help of the folks here, I'll continue to grow and learn in this job

too! I've heard many people say that command chiefs should have first sergeant experience. I'm not sure that's a realistic belief.

The two jobs are very similar, and having first sergeant experience may be helpful, but a chief who has good leadership skills and a concern for the wing's mission and its people will succeed in this job.

Q: Briefly, how would you describe your leadership style or philosophy?

A: I don't think I'm the "directive" type. Rather than push my own agenda, I'd rather give advice and sit back and watch our folks make things happen.

My philosophy is to ask as many people as possible to participate in the leadership process. Those of us in leadership positions, in addition to our other responsibilities, are responsible for the growth of others to ensure the long-term health of our Air Force.

I'd like to believe that I'm a good listener who is open to suggestions and accepts alternate points of view before making a decision.

I'm pretty easy going. But, if I'm really passionate about something that's good for the folks ... watch out, I'll fight to the end!

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Recycling picks up holiday remnants

ROBERT MYERS

Tyndall Recycling Coordinator

As the holidays approach once again, Tyndall's households will be filled with additional recyclables such as cardboard, wrapping paper, aluminum pie tins, aluminum drink cans, plastic drink bottles and glass containers.

This year, Christmas and New Years days occur on Wednesdays, therefore, recyclables will be picked up in Wood Manor Tuesdays as normal. In addition, cardboard and wrapping paper will be picked up in Wood Manor Thursday. Shoal Point, Felix Housing and Redfish Point Housing will be picked up as normal.

To assist in sorting recyclables,

Housing residents can help the recycling effort by sorting the recyclables properly. Some examples are:

- Take the lids off of plastic containers and dispose of them
- Sort and separate white ledger paper, newspapers, etc.
 - Crush aluminum cans
- Break down cardboard to allow for more space and less trips to the recycling center.

In addition, the recycling center takes all toner cartridges, plastic cased leadacid batteries and most scrap metal.

Due to current commodities prices and no market, the recycling center is not taking magazines, phone books or

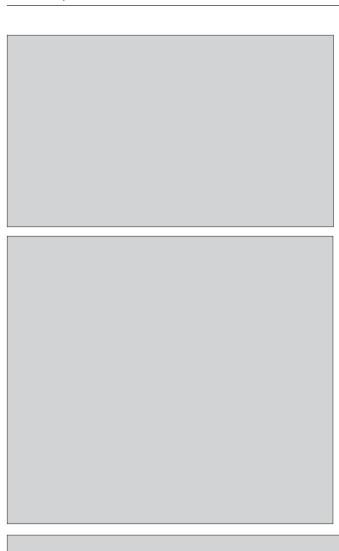
creased and the prices for most of the commodities are again on the rise. Even though the future is looking profitable, without the cooperative effort from the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's Environmental Flight, the program would have suffered another financial loss this year.

The recycling center processed more than 1,257 tons of recyclable material in Fiscal 2002. The program saved more than \$182,000 in cost avoidance such as landfill fees.

Without your support, none of this would be possible. Your continued support for the program is greatly appreciated. Thanks for recycling. Let's continue to help







Assignment system upgrades in progress

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — The nearly 30,000 officers and enlisted members who access the online Assignment Management System each day are experiencing technology's classic "good news, bad news" story.

An upgrade will improve access speed and allow AMS to support the total force development concept, but until it is complete, users worldwide only have access for 20 hours per day.

To allow technical upgrades and keep internal personnel processes up to speed, customers will not be able to access AMS weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The work is in progress and should be completed

Air Force Personnel Center.

"Our new three-cycle officer assignment system, upgrades in other AFPC Web servers to improve overall customer access to personnel data and great interest in the new force development concept all combined to drive the number of daily transactions beyond today's AMS server capabilities," said Col. Christopher Miller, director of assignments.

"We're moving out to fix the short-term problem and regret the inconvenience it may cause," Colonel Miller said. "But we're intent on making the system work better to provide airmen world-class assignment service and to make it a

by mid-January, said officials at the springboard for future enhancements."

> AMS lets all airmen view their personal information, lets commanders weigh in on officer assignment preferences and provides a platform for eVector, an online mentoring tool. Enlisted people can view and volunteer for quarterly assignments and officers can fill out and update their preference worksheets.

> During system down times, airmen with urgent assignment issues can call the Air Force Contact Center toll free at (866) 229-7074 or DSN 665-5000, or get help online at www.afpc.randolph. af.mil.

(Courtesy AFPC News Service)

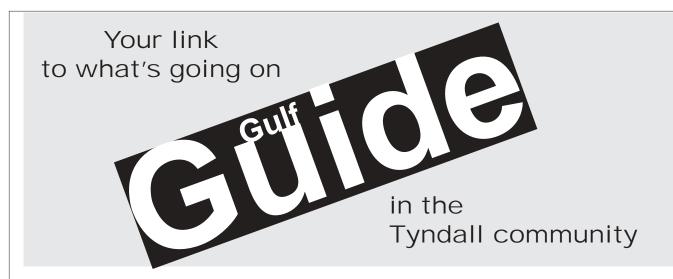
SEADS assists in tracking Santa

On Christmas Eve, the Southeast Air Defense Sector will assist the North American Aerospace Defense Command in tracking Saint Nick's travels across the southeast United States.

Children across the world can tune into NORAD's Santa tracking by Internet, e-mail or phone.

To receive an update on Santa's Christmas Eve journey, with parent's permission, children may call the traditional "NORAD Tracks Santa" tollfree hotline at (877) HI-

NORAD. The hotline is available at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Children may visit the Web site at www.norad santa.org for a progress rePage 12 Gulf Defender Dec. 20, 2002



DECEMBER



Assumption of command

Lt. Col. George Zaniewski takes command of the 325th Maintenance Squadron today in a 3 p.m. ceremony in

Hush House 2. All are welcome to attend.

GCCC office closure

The Gulf Coast Community College office in the education center is closed today. For more information, call 283-4332.

Thrift shop hours

The Tyndall Thrift Shop is closed for the holidays. The shop will re-open Jan. 8, 2003. For more information or to volunteer, call 286-5888.



Chapel religious education

The Tyndall Chapel offers religious education 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sundays for Protestants and 11 a.m.-noon Sundays for

Catholics. Both sessions will be held at the spiritual fitness building. For more information, call 283-2925.



Commissary Christmas hours

The Tyndall commissary's operating hours for the Christmas and New Year's holiday period will be as follows:

Monday – open; Tuesday – open until 4 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday – closed; Dec. 30 – open; Jan. 1 and 2, 2003 – closed.

GCCC holiday hours

The Gulf Coast Community College office in the education center will close for the Christmas holiday at 4 p.m. Monday and re-open 8 a.m. Jan. 2. For more information, call 283-4332.



AAFES holiday hours

The following Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities will be open at the following times on Tuesday. All

facilities will be closed on Wednesday, Christmas Day. Main store – 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoal Point Shoppette – 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Class Six – 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Felix Lake Shoppette – 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Service station – 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Burger King, the base barber shop and the cleaners will be closed on both Tuesday and Wednesday.

Family practice holiday hours

The family practice clinic will be closed on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. In addition, the clinic will be half-staffed Monday-Dec. 27 and Dec. 30-Jan. 3.



AAFES holiday hours

The following Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities will be open at the following times on Dec. 31 (New Year's

Eve). Main store – 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Shoal Point Shoppette – 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Class Six – 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Felix Lake Shoppette – 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; Service station – 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; barber shop – 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Felix Lake Shoppette will be open noon-4 p.m. Jan. 1; all other facilities will be closed.

JANUARY



Hospital closes early

The 325th Medical Group closes at noon the first Thursday of every month. All hospital agencies, including all clinics and

the main and satellite pharmacy, will close due to mandatory training. The medical group apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.



Munitions closure

The munitions storage area will be closed to all customers from Jan. 6-10 due to a change of munitions accountable systems

officer 100 percent closed warehouse inventory. Only valid emergency issues will be processed during this period. For more information, call munitions operations, 283-4010 or 283-2374.

NOTES

Service station bay hours

The service station bay has extended its hours of operation as follows: 6-7:15 a.m. Monday-Friday – walk-ins; 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday – appointments only; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday – appointments only; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday – appointments only. For more information, call 286-5826.

PME instructor vacancies

The Tyndall Noncommissioned Officer Academy has

immediate vacancies for professional military education instructors. The positions are open to technical sergeants and technical sergeant selects who have completed the NCO Academy in-residence and have at least an associate's degree. The special-duty assignment is a three-year controlled tour. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Mihal, 283-3238.

Lifeguard training

The Central Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer the first of six lifeguard training sessions Jan. 20-25, 2003. For more information, call the Red Cross, 763-6587.

Housing office hours

The 325th Civil Engineer Squadron's Housing Flight office hours are now 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Friday; and 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday. The housing office will be closed Thursday mornings for training.

Guardian ad Litem training

Training will begin soon for anyone interested in joining the Guardian ad Litem Program. Guardian ad Litem volunteers represent abandoned, abused and/or neglected children in court. For more information, call 747-5180.

RETIREE NEWS

1099R tax forms

The 2002 1099R tax forms for all Department of Defense military retirees and annuitants will be mailed by Jan. 15, 2003, to the home addresses on file with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. Retirees and annuitants who do not receive their 1099R forms by Jan. 31 should call (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955. Customer service representatives are available 7 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Beginning Jan. 11 until Feb. 15, Saturday service will also be available. Customers may also write to the following addresses for service – and are reminded to include Social Security Numbers and signatures on all correspondence.

Retirees: Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U.S. Military Retired Pay, P.O. Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130

Annuitants: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Annuitant Pay, P.O. Box 7131, London, KY 40742-7131.

YARD SALES

There are no yard sales scheduled for Saturday.

vies BASE THEATER

The base theater is closed for repairs until further notice.

CLASSIFIEDS

1990 GEO Storm hatchback, 5-speed, looks good, runs good, \$1,200. Call 784-0428.

TSP season ends Dec. 31

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Civilian and military employees still have time to sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the current open season.

"With the holiday season rapidly approaching, we want to remind everyone that open season dates have changed, and this year ends earlier than in past years," said Janet Thomas of the civilian Benefits and **Entitlements Service Team** at the Air Force Personnel Center. The last day TSP open season elections can be made is Dec. 31.

Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective the beginning of the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military.

Specific information is available for civilian employees from the Thrift Savings Web site at www.tsp.gov/ or the BEST home page at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ dpc/BEST/menu.htm and for Air Force military personnel www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ mpf/TSP/thrift_savings <u>_plan.htm</u>.

(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

Help Us Conserve



Sports & Wellness

Tigers split weekend games with Commandos

The Tyndall Tigers men's varsity basketball team suffered their first home defeat of the season as they fell to the visiting Commandos of Hurlburt Field on Saturday, but rebounded on Sunday to win and regain sole possession of first place in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference (SEMAC) action this past weekend.

Hurlburt Field-88, Tyndall-74

In Saturday's game, the Tigers showed the effects of a three-week layoff as they quickly fell behind the red-hot shooting Commandos who connected on six three-pointers in the half, led by guard Byron Young who scored 18 first-half points to lead Hurlburt Field to a 49-35 advantage. In the second half, Tyndall rallied to trim the Commandos' lead to five points, with 3:51 remaining in the contest, but three consecutive missed free throws, including the front end of a one-and-one, would prove to be the Tigers' undoing. Hurlburt went into their delay game, which forced Tyndall The Tigers, behind Lance Clark's 16 points, to foul to get the ball back. The Commandos then connected on eight out of 10 free throws to seal the victory. The loss dropped the Tigers into a first-place conference tie with the Commandos at 12-3.

Marcus Baucom led the Tigers in scoring with 19 points, followed by Tarrance Garner with 15 and Chris Jackson with 12 points. Garner led in rebounding with 10, Baucom led in assists with 10 and Ronald Butler had three blocked shots. Byron Young led Hurlburt in scoring with a game-high 28 points.

Tyndall-76, Hurlburt-62

In Sunday's contest, a determined Tyndall squad hit the court running. Tyndall changed its defensive strategy by switching from a man-to-man defense to a three-two zone and effectively shut down the Commandos' perimeter game—reducing the 10 made threepointers in game one to two in game two.

took a 40-32 lead into the intermission. In the second half, the Tigers steadily increased their lead as they denied several attempts by the Commandos to get back into the contest and late in the half Tyndall enjoyed a 20-point lead. With the split, the Tigers (13-3) and Commandos (12-4) remain in first and second place respectively.

Tarrance Garner paced the Tigers in scoring with 20 points, followed by Lance Clark with 16, Keith Castille with 12, and Chris Jackson with 10 points. Garner also led the Tigers in rebounding with a personal seasonhigh 14 while Marcus Baucom led in assists with 12. Walter Fitzgerald led the Commandos in scoring with a game-high 22 points.

The Tigers are on break during the holidays, but return to action Jan. 4-5 as they host the third place Eglin Eagles.

(Courtesy Tyndall Tigers)

opens March order pharmacy

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — More than 400,000 military pharmacy mail order customers will be switched March 1 to a new TRICARE mail order pharmacy program, according to Army Col. William Davies of the TRICARE Management Activity.

Services will continue under the National Mail Order Pharmacy contract until Feb. 28, he said. The next day, March 1, Express Scripts Inc. will provide the services.

Colonel Davies, director of the Department of Defense pharmacy programs, said beneficiaries who have refills remaining on prescriptions on March 1 will be transferred to Express Scripts so they can continue ordering medications on time, with a few exceptions.

"We can't transfer narcotics or other controlled substance prescriptions," said Colonel Davies. "Nor can we transfer compounded prescriptions, those that are physically prepared by the pharmacy."

Medication that requires refrigeration is shipped through priority mail or a courier service, such as FedEx, he said.

"That's one reason we don't send medications that require refrigeration to APO and FPO addresses overseas," he noted.

TRICARE beneficiaries living and working overseas can use the mail order pharmacy if they have an APO, FPO or a U.S. embassy address. But the prescription must be written by a provider licensed to practice in the United States.

In early January, current users should receive a post card announcing the new services. That will be followed by a mailing that will include a registration form, a description of benefits and a brochure covering the TRICARE program.

Those eligible to use the current mail order program or the retail benefit are eligible to use the new TRICARE mail order program. New customers have to register for the program. Information will be provided through the TRICARE service centers, military treatment facility pharmacies as well as their marketing points of contact.

The usual delivery time for medication is five to seven days. The easiest way for patients to ensure they don't run out of their medication is to have the provider write for up to a 90-day supply with up to three refills. The beneficiary can request a refill once 75 percent of the medication has been used.

"So about Day 70 into their medication, they can request a refill," Colonel Davies said. "That provides them a cushion."

He said all medication is screened for potential drug interactions or therapeutic overlaps that could produce an adverse drug reaction. He said patients' complete beneficiary profiles are entered into the Pharmacy Data Transition Service, which enhances patient safety by keeping their medication records current, on file and readily available.

The new contract saves taxpayers' dollars because it calls for purchasing drug products at federal prices. Best federal prices are at least 24 percent below average commercial wholesale prices, Colonel Davies estimated.

The TRICARE Management Activity will manage the new contract. The current, national contract has been managed by the Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia.

Patients can fill prescriptions three ways: by direct care at military treatment facilities, the retail pharmacy network or the mail order program, Colonel Davies said. The direct care system serves the bulk of the beneficiary population, he said. About 2.5 million beneficiaries use the retail pharmacy network because they don't have access to a military facility.

Most of the 400,000 beneficiaries who use the mail order program do so for chronic medication or maintenance medication needs, Colonel Davies said.

"We want beneficiaries who have long-term medication needs to consider using the mail order program. It provides up to a 90-day supply of most medications for a single co-pay, whereas they only receive a 30-day supply for a single co-pay in the retail network pharmacy system," he said.

Under the TRICARE mail order pharmacy system, the co-pay for up to a 90-day supply for most medications is \$9 for branded products or \$3 for generics. Exceptions include controlled substances, and active-duty members are not required to pay.

For more information, including a complete section on the co-pay structure, visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil. Reservists can check the site for details of their benefits under the program.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)



-unshine N



December 20, 2002

This page is produced by the 325th Services Marketing office, 283-4565.

Congratulations!

Mark & Jacqueline Schneider for winning the Grand Prize in the Hidden Treasures Contest



Friday, January 10

5:30-8:30 p.m.

Market Price: \$18.95* Children ages 6-11: \$9.95* 5 & Under: \$4.95*

*Members First

Show your club card to receive a \$3 discount.

Call for more information 283-4357

Teen Center

© 283-0295

Trip to Carmike Theater

Jan. 3, \$3 Members, \$5 Non-members. Register and pay by Dec. 30. Shuttle will leave youth center at 5:30 p.m.

Nursing Home Visit

Jan. 4, Help brighten someone's day while completing community service hours. Register by Dec. 30th. Open to ages 13-18 yrs.

Teen Council / Keystone Club Meeting

Jan. 8, 7 p.m. Teen of the Month/Quarter announced.

Community Activities Center

Sponsored in part by: AAFES, Hodge Barb-Que & The Chefs' Shop No federal endorsement of sponsors intended Call for more information:

283-2495

Celebrąțe the New Year

at your Club! Dec. 31, 2002

Reservations Encouraged...

The E' Club

Doors Open @ 8 p.m. Resolve to be there!

Advance Ticket Purchase:

Couples \$18.00 Singles \$11.00

At the door \$12 per person After 11:30 p.m. \$8 per person

Members First

Show your club card to receive \$5 off Couples Price or \$3 off Singles Price.

The O'Ch

Doors Open @ 8 p.m. Resolve to be there!

Advance Ticket Purchase:

Couples \$21.95 Singles \$12.95

At the door \$13 per person After 11:30 p.m. \$8 per person

Reservations thru Dec. 21:

283-4357 Reservations from Dec. 23-27:

283-4054

Have a Birthday Party at Raptor Lanes

Hors d'oeuvres, Party Favors, Music

and Celebration followed by a

Breakfast Buffet @ Midnight

Economy Party - \$22 Custom Party - \$39
Delixe Party - \$59
Birthday child must be 16 years old or younger. Your child will love the "Bowland" 3-D Animated Graphics. They're awesome!

283-2380

Sand Dollar Inn

© 283-4211

Holiday Guests

Sponsor a guest into Sand Dollar Inn for the Holidays.

Did you know you can get a microchip implanted in your pet at the vet clinic? Call for more information.

Call the vet clinic for information on sales and specials!

283-2434



Raptor Lanes Base Championship

Bowling Tournament

January 18 at 10 a.m.



Sponsored in part by: Anheuser Busch, Columbia 300 No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Aero Club

© 283-4404

Private Pilot Ground School

Our next class begins on Jan. 13 and will run until March 21. Classes are on Mondays and Wednesdays 6-9 p.m. Call for more information.

Tyndall Clubs Host

Watch the multi-game action at the CAC Pizza Pub!



The CAC will be open Sundays, 12-7 p.m. during football season (Through January 26)



Win a trip to: 49ers vs. Cowboys game Super Bowl Pro Bowl San Francisco to

meet 49ers Terrell Owens For more information call 283-3222

Sponsored in part by: American Arlines, Double Tree Alana Hotel Walkle, Miller Life, First USA Blank, Destination Arlington, TII No tederal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Want to keep up with "What's Happening" at Tyndall? Send us your email and we will add you to our weekly mailing.

whats.happening@tyndall.af.mil or call us at 283-4565 Check us out on the world wide web:

www.325thservices.com

Bonita Bay

© 283-3199

Swim with the Manatees

Feb. 9-12, Cost per person is \$185 and includes 3 nights accommodations, transportation, 2 half day boat rentals, wet suit, dry bag, mask, fins, snorkel, admission to Homossasa State Wildlife Park and Tampa State Fair. \$25 nonrefundable deposit now reserves your seat.

Services Holiday Hours

Aero Club: Closed Dec. 25 & Jan. 1 Bonita Bay: Closed Dec. 22-Jan.1 Enlisted Club: Dec. 24, 25, & Jan. 1 Closed

Dec. 31, 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

FamCamp: Open all days, no propane sales: Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Fitness Ctr.: Closed Dec. 24, 25 &

Jan. 1. No aerobics classes Dec. 23-Jan. 1. Golf Course: Dec. 24, 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 25, Open to walkers

Dec. 31, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 1, 6:30 a.m.-dusk

Graphic Impressions: Closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1. HRO: Dec. 24 open till noon

Closed Dec. 25-27, & Jan. 1 ITT: Closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1 Library: Dec. 24, 31, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Dec. 25 & Jan. 1, Closed Marina Club: Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1 Closed

Officers' Club: Dec. 24, 25, & Jan, 1 Closed Dec. 31, 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

Raptor Lanes: Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 25 & Jan. 1, Closed Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Skills Dev. Ctr.: Closed Dec. 23-Jan.1 Vet Clinic: Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1 Closed

Passport to Adventure Validate Your Passport NOW Chance to Win These Great Prizes:

A Cruise for 2 on the Riviera A Cruise for 2 on the New England Coast To get your passport and information on how to play stop by information, Tickets and Travel or call:

283-2499

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●FROM COOK PAGE 5

As a command, we did this while deploying more than 5,000 people in support of the Air and Space Expeditionary Forces and homeland defense. In order to support future operations, we have nearly doubled the number of AETC personnel available to more than 22,000 airmen. The bottom line ... the Air Force

is a better place because of your hard work and dedication.

We'll undoubtedly face various challenges in the new year. But your sacrifices, perseverance and enthusiasm have postured the command to take full advantage of the many opportunities I anticipate we'll have to overcome those challenges in 2003. I look forward to

working with the AETC Team to make a great command even better in the coming year.

As we observe the many traditions of this special season, I ask that you remember our colleagues who won't be home to celebrate with family and friends. I also ask that you open your hearts and your homes to the families

of those who are deployed, and the young airmen who, for one reason or another, can't be with family and friends during this special season.

My wife, Diane, joins me in wishing each of you a joyous and safe holiday season. Our best wishes go out to each of you for a prosperous and bright new year.

•From SANDSTROM Page 5

great pride that I thank you all for your role in helping the 19th train and mentor these young airmen to reach their greatest potential. You are exemplary role models and represent the Air Force well.

As we reflect, let us not forget the many blessings gained through the year and remember the importance of family and friends. Enjoy the holiday, and as always, be safe.

Jeanie and I wish you a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

